

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the herein contained amendment under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.312.

Upon entry of this amendment, the Brief Description of the Drawings will have been amended to delete reference to FIG. 5C which is not contained in the Drawings.

Although this amendment is being submitted after the mailing of the Notice of Allowance and although amendments may not be made as a matter of right after the mailing of the Notice of Allowance, Applicant submits that the entry of the herein contained amendment is appropriate to ensure consistency between the Specification and the Drawings. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to exercise his discretion and to indicate the entry of the amendment contained herein under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.312.

The changes introduced by the amendment contained above do not continue the prosecution of the application after the Notice of Allowance. Rather, this amendment merely corrects a readily apparent inconsistency between the Drawings and Specification. Accordingly, it is submitted that this amendment is proper for entry at the present time.

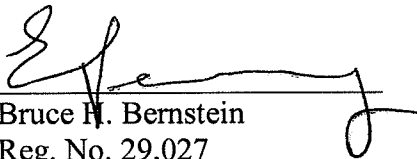
The above amendment further does not require a substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Patent and Trademark Office. The Examiner has already considered the reasons for patentability of the present invention and no new issues are raised by the above-amendment. Accordingly, Applicant submits that under the criteria set forth in the M.P.E.P., the present amendment should be considered and its entry should be recommended by the Examiner.

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner delete the reference to FIG. 5C from the Brief Description of the Drawings in the Specification. Entry of

the above amendment is believed to be appropriate and is respectfully requested from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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